

which he disestablished when he became TROA president in December 1986. Through his stewardship, The Retired Officers Association played a pivotal role in convincing Congress to enact several legislative initiatives to maintain readiness and improve the quality of life for all members of the military community—active, reserve and retired, plus their families and survivors. I won't describe all of his accomplishments, but will briefly focus on a few to illustrate the breadth of his concern for military people.

Under his direction, TROA supported strengthening the underpinning of the Montgomery GI Bill and thus provided a solid foundation for our Nation's future leaders by placing the wherewithal for a college education on the horizons of more than 1 million young men and women who otherwise might have been denied that opportunity. He was ever mindful of the adverse effects on morale and retention caused by broken commitments and inadequate compensation and forcefully championed the causes of fairness and equity. His leadership efforts to preserve the long-standing commitment to lifetime care in military health care facilities, to fight perennial threats to retiree cost of living adjustments and to provide adequate military pay raises are some of his other significant contributions. Most recently, he fought and won the battle for a transition plan that provides a comprehensive benefits package for those personnel and their families who are forced out of active service as a result of the force structure drawdown that, hopefully, is in its final stages.

One of Tom's added strengths has been his lovely wife of 44 years, the former Dornell Thompson of Pensacola, FL. Dornell has stood steadfastly at his side, championing the cause of military people, particularly their families and survivors, everywhere. For these contributions, we owe her a debt of gratitude, as well.

Tom and Dornell live in McLean, VA. They have had four children: Captain Tom, Jr., an F-14 pilot now in the Navy Chair at the National War College; Lieutenant Patrick, lost in an F-14 accident off the U.S.S. *Constellation*, Lieutenant Kathleen, a navy doctor killed in an auto accident; and Mary, wife of Commander Bob Novak, a P-3 pilot assigned as a program manager in the Naval Air Systems Command in Washington, DC.

I wish to extend my heartfelt appreciation for his numerous contributions to military people everywhere and my best wishes for continued success in all of his endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF THREE BAI- LEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL RE- TIREES

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 1995

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the longstanding service and dedication of three employees of the William F. Bailey Elementary School of Pasadena, TX, who will retire at the end of this month.

Bailey Elementary has provided an excellent education to the thousands of students that have passed through its doors in its 37-year history. Bailey was the first school to establish

the Right Choice Program, which teaches children that with everything there is a right and a wrong choice. It is the only elementary school with a choir, orchestra, and band in the Pasadena Independent School District. The entire staff at Bailey Elementary School works together with one goal in mind: To make every child a winner.

These three individuals, Patricia Ann Autrey Hawkins, Rebecca Faye Dorsett Buck, and Pauline Sophie Trojanowski Braden, have demonstrated their commitment to this goal and to the students of Bailey Elementary.

Mrs. Hawkins was born on July 22, 1938. Her parents devoted their lives to public education, spending over 75 years in the classroom or administration, so it was no surprise when Patricia attended Sam Houston State Teachers College and the University of Houston. She received her bachelor degree in education from Sam Houston in 1959. Her first teaching experience began with the Houston Independent School District, but she moved to Pasadena Independent School District after only one semester. She taught at Red Bluff Elementary for 5 years, before she and her family moved to Austin for her husband to complete his graduate studies. Mrs. Hawkins returned to Pasadena in 1969 and began her career again at Bailey Elementary School as a fourth grade teacher. She never left.

Mrs. Hawkins' dedication to education was not limited to the classroom, however. She remained active in the Texas State Teachers Association, the Pasadena Junior Forum, Delta Kappa Gamma, and First United Methodist Church. She served as a grade-level chairman and on numerous faculty committees at Bailey, and she was also honored with a Texas lifetime membership to the PTA. Mrs. Hawkins also found time to complete her own education, and she received her masters degree from Southwest Texas State Teachers College in 1965.

Mrs. Hawkins and her husband Sam have remained in the Pasadena area for over 30 years. Their children, Malcolm and Melissa, continue to live in Texas. Mrs. Hawkins will retire from Pasadena Independent School District and Bailey Elementary on May 29, 1995, after 31 years in public education.

Rebecca Faye Dorsett Buck was born on September 4, 1938, and moved to Houston at the age of 6. He graduated from Galena Park High School in 1956 and married her husband, Ronald Buck, in December 1957. Mrs. Buck waited until her three children, Ronald, Teresa, and Terrie, were in high school before she started to work in the Pasadena School District. She began in the visual handicap program in 1975, and after taking 1 year off, she returned to complete 19 years working at Bailey Elementary School, her latest position as a member of the office staff.

Mrs. Buck has also dedicated herself to activities outside the school, including the Central Baptist Church. She has a great talent for decorating and is very creative with arts, crafts, and floral arrangements. Mrs. Buck also spends a great deal of time entertaining her six grandchildren.

According to her coworkers and friends, Mrs. Buck goes out of her way to help anyone and treats everyone equally. She has maintained the respect and admiration of the faculty, administration, and students during her 19 years at Bailey.

Pauline Sophie Trojanowski Braden was born on February 6, 1931, in Sealy, TX. She

married Anton Otto Braden, Jr. in October 1948, and has 5 children, 10 grandchildren, and 1 great-grandchild. Mrs. Braden began working with Pasadena Independent School District in 1971, and will be retiring from the cafeteria staff of Bailey this year.

Mrs. Braden has lived in Pasadena since 1960. Currently three of her children and one grandchild live with her. Her daughter Cynthia said, in a tribute to her mother, that:

She would not hesitate to give anything she has to anyone of her family with no thought of asking for repayment. She comes from a large family and does not consider this living arrangement as cramped as some might think. I might even go as far to say she is happy because this is her family. Little does mother know she is giving up something which is totally unknown to her, and as of now it may never be known to her. That is total peace mind. And even if she was aware of what she might be missing, she would choose to give it up for her family anyway.

Mrs. Braden will be sorely missed for her warmth, dedication, and friendship to Bailey Elementary, its staff, and its students.

I congratulate Mrs. Hawkins, Mrs. Buck, and Mrs. Braden on their combined 73 years of service to the Pasadena School District and to the Pasadena community. I wish them the very best as they enjoy their retirement, and I am certain they all will be missed at Bailey Elementary.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE ALLI- ANCE FOR JUSTICE HONORING TOM STODDARD

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 1995

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, on May 23, the Alliance for Justice—a coalition of organizations with a history of working for equal justice—honored Tom Stoddard for his long career. I want to take the opportunity to do so as well.

Now is precisely the right time to honor Tom Stoddard.

This Congress is dominated by politicians who would have us march backward and have us repeal the progress of the last 25 years, especially the ideals of equal justice.

But Tom embodies a different philosophy, one first said by Frederick Douglass: "Those who profess to favor freedom, and yet deprecate agitation, are men who want crops without plowing up the ground. If there is no struggle, there is no progress."

In that spirit, Tom has worked and struggled. For years after the Nation decided that race discrimination, sex discrimination, religious discrimination, and finally disability discrimination were all wrong—discrimination against gay men and lesbians is not just allowed, it is encouraged, it is joked about, it is expected.

Tom has worked against that, working for what the opposition calls "the special rights for gay people." He has worked for the "special right" to work if you are qualified; the "special right" to live in the privacy of your home with those you love; the "special right" to have families; the "special right" to speak your mind; the "special right" to serve your country;